

Florence, New Jersey
July 20, 2005

The Florence Township Council held a regular meeting on the above date in the Municipal Complex, 711 Broad Street, Florence, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order by President Fratinardo at 8:00 PM. President Fratinardo led the Salute to the Flag.

The Township Clerk read the following statement: "Notice of this meeting has been given in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice was published in the Burlington County Times on January 2, 2005 and January 16, 2005; given to the Register News for information. Notice was posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board."

Upon roll call the following were found to be present:

John Fratinardo, President
Frank Baldorossi
Bruce Garganio
Elizabeth Ryan
Jerry Sandusky (Late)

Also present:

Mayor Michael Muchowski; Richard Brook, Township Administrator; Thomas Sahol, Assistant Administrator; Dante Guzzi, Township Engineer; William John Kearns, Jr., Township Solicitor; Joy Weiler, Township Clerk

MINUTES

Garganio made a MOTION; seconded by Baldorossi to approve the following minutes. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

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FINANCIAL CORRESPONDENCE

It was on the MOTION of Ryan; seconded by Baldorossi to receive and file the Court Administrator's report for June. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

Ryan made a MOTION; seconded by Baldorossi to approve the Treasurer's Bill List. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried.

NOTE: 8:05 PM Council Member Sandusky present.

REGULAR CORRESPONDENCE

None at this time.

APPLICATIONS

None at this time.

REQUEST FOR BLOCK PARTY: 07/23/05

Administrator Brook explained that the Police Department does not have any objections to the block party but he is waiting for the homeowner to provide something in writing. He asked if Council would like to act on the request this evening conditioned on receiving a formal request and reviewing with him the standard procedures: consent of the neighbors, access in both directions of the development and not running too late. Administrator Brook stated that since requests for block parties are becoming more common, the Chief of Police might come to Council with a formal recommendation of guidelines for block parties.

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Garganio conditioned upon the resident following the standard procedure.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo
NOES: None
ABSENT: None

Motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tom Stanuikynas, 15 Third Avenue, commended Mayor, Council and all the staff involved with the Patriotic Celebration for a wonderful day. He has heard a lot of positive feedback on the day's events.

Mr. Stanuikynas has spoken to residents of Brookside Drive regarding the increase of traffic and the speed of the vehicles. The road is striped and many of the residents believe the stripes give the appearance of a highway and cause drivers to drive faster. As a former transportation planner, Mr. Stanuikynas asked Council to consider other traffic calming techniques such as speed humps, bolt outs and raised crosswalks. Administrator Brook offered to set up a meeting with Mr. Stanuikynas, the Chief of Police and Captain to discuss and go over the traffic studies that they looked at in regards to the striping. He explained that some signs have been purchased for the middle of the road but they wanted to see how the striping worked before installing them.

Richard Cheesman, 262 Fifth Avenue, would like to commend the Police Department for their work on the drug problem in his neighborhood. On behalf of himself and his neighbors, he asked if Mayor and Council would allow him to present a letter of commendation to Detective Albert Jacoby and Detective Dominick Golden at the next Council Meeting. Council in agreement to allow Mr. Cheesman to honor the detectives.

Mr. Cheesman also praised the events of the Patriotic Celebration Day.

All residents having an opportunity to be heard, MOTION by Garganio; seconded by Ryan to close the public portion of the meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-146

**STRONGLY OPPOSING THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY'S PLAN TO
TRANSPORT THROUGH FLORENCE TOWNSHIP AND DUMPING THE
BYPRODUCT OF VX INTO THE DELAWARE RIVER**

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-147

AUTHORIZING REFUNDS OF CERTAIN TAX OVERPAYMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-148

AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC SALE OF TOWNSHIP OWNED PROPERTY

RESOLUTION NO. 2005-149

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PAYMENT OF TAX BILLS

Council Vice President Ryan asked that Resolution No. 2005-146 (Oppose VX Byproduct Being Dumped into the Delaware River) reflect that press accounts indicate, before the gas is processed, it may be transported through Florence Township. She would like to oppose not only the gas being dumped into the river but also being transported over the PA Turnpike Bridge directly into Florence Township. She asked if Council would like to amend the Resolution to reflect that opposition as well. Council in agreement to amend Resolution No. 2005-146 to oppose VX Byproduct being transported through Florence Township.

It was on the MOTION of Ryan, seconded by Sandusky that Resolutions 2005-146 through 2005-149 be approved, with Resolution 2005-146 being amended to also oppose the VX Byproduct being transported through Florence Township.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Motion carries.

ORDINANCES

**ORDINANCE NO. 2005-19
(1st READING)**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF FLORENCE TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 134, LOT 23 AND GENERALLY KNOWN AS THE ROEBLING FIREHOUSE FROM THE ROEBLING VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 3 AND TO ENTER INTO A LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PROPERTY.

It was on the MOTION of Garganio, seconded by Ryan to approve Ordinance No. 2005-19 on first reading and set adoption for August 3, 2005.

On the Question

Nothing at this time.

Upon roll call Council voted as follows:

YEAS: Baldorossi, Garganio, Ryan, Sandusky, Fratinardo

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Unanimous approval.

REPORTS

Committees, Boards and Officers

- Nothing at this time.

Mayor Muchowski

- Mayor Muchowski thanked the residents for recognizing the success of the Patriotic Celebration. He explained that early in the morning a 5k run/jog/walk was held with awards given to the first female and male under 40 years old and the first female and male over 40 years old. Just under \$1,200 was raised to benefit Joshua Shafer and the Field Hockey Team that is going to Florida to represent the community in a scrimmage. He stated that he and two (2) Council Members (Council Member Baldorossi and Council Vice President Ryan) participated in the event with a little banter as to who would finish first. Mayor Muchowski created a new division and had a plaque made up for the "Mayor and Council Division". He presented the award to Council Vice President Ryan for "first place", with Mayor Muchowski and Council Member Baldorossi "bringing up the rear". Council Vice President Ryan thanked Mayor Muchowski.

Administrator

- Administrator Brook stated that work is under way on the two (2) alleys in Roebbling, (between 7th and 8th Avenues and between 2nd and 3rd Avenues from Hornberger Avenue to Main Street) which should be completed by Friday. The job is going very well. Trash will not be able to be picked up in the alleys

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tomorrow but the Public Works Department will be picking the trash up in front of the homes. The residents have been notified.

- Administrator Brook asked if a couple of Council Members would be on a subcommittee for COAH and to let him know after this evening's meeting. He would like to meet with the subcommittee prior to a Council Meeting in August.

Assistant Administrator

- At the request of Don Kamienski, McCay Drive resident, at the July 6th Council Meeting, Assistant Administrator Sahol and Captain Gadbois looked at the parking in front of the Post Office on Broad Street. They do not recommend changes to the existing signage but recommend extra delineation of the parking stalls, which can be done in house.

Township Solicitor

- Nothing at this time.

Township Engineer

- Dan Guzzi, Township Engineer, stated that the Road Program plans have been finalized and he will be meeting with Administrator Brook next week. He hopes to go out to bid within the next two (2) weeks.

Council Member Garganio questioned the status of the old public works building. Mr. Guzzi stated that a representative of his office met with the contractor last week and they faxed over an updated schedule of when they expect to be completed, which should be in five (5) weeks. Council Member Garganio asked that the roof be thoroughly inspected.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Sandusky suggested that a **flagpole and light be installed at Centennial Park** in Roebling by the **new monument honoring veterans**. He suggested that perhaps NJ Transit would split the cost. Mayor Muchowski feels it is a good suggestion and will follow through.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nothing at this time.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nothing at this time.

8:22 PM MOTION by Sandusky, seconded by Ryan to adjourn to Closed Session. Action may be taken following Closed Session. Roll call vote - all ayes.

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ADJOURNMENT

8:22 PM: Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

JOY M. WEILER
Township Clerk

/mab

NOTE: No action taken following Closed Session.